

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 - 16 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claims 2 and 8 have been amended in order to correct minor typographical errors.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-16 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,739,971 to the same inventor and with a common assignee. Applicant is herewith submitting a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection.

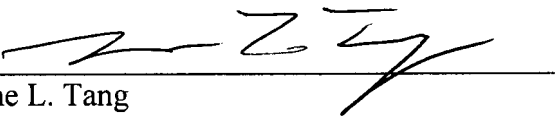
Conclusion

It is Applicant's belief that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and actions towards that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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Wayne L. Tang
Reg. No. 36,028
Nixon Peabody, LLP.
161 N. Clark Street., 48th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3213
(312) 425-3900
Attorney for Applicants